THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Nepal's newly-elected Constituent Assembly declared Nepal a Federal Democratic Republic at its first sitting on May 28, 2008.

(c) and (e) No, Sir.

(d) and (f) Does not arise.

Indians working in Afghanistan

1154. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is running out of options in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, whether a number of persons employed and working in Afghanistan's development of road, etc. were kidnapped and killed by the extremists;

(c) if so, the total number of Indians working in Afghanistan that have been attacked so far;

(d) the action India and Afghanistan have taken to safeguard the Indian working there on these projects; and

(e) whether these attacks have hampered the progress of development of Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There have been 12 Indian fatal casualties resulting from terrorist attacks since November 2005.

(d) The security of Indians working in various development projects in Afghanistan is kept under constant scrutiny with the Government of Afghanistan and whenever required additional measures are taken through upgradation of levels of security.

(e) A continued deterioration in security situation may adversely impact the smooth and timely implementation of development project in which Indian professionals are engaged in Afghanistan.

G-8 Summit in Tokyo

†1155. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of India attended the G-8 summit, held in Tokyo, Japan on 1st July, 2008;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the achievements on the issues such as environment pollution, green world plan, the problem of increasing prices of crude oil, increasing poverty and hunger in the world due to scarcity of foodgrains arising out of other uses of grains by developed countries; and

(c) the achievements of the atomic deal with America therein?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Prime Minister attended the G8–Outreach Session in Tokyo, Japan on 9 July 2008. India was invited as one of the Outreach countries.

(b) Issues discussed at the G8–Outreach Sessions included Heiligendamm process, world economy, climate change and environment, development with a focus on Africa and regional issues. India's participation in the G8–Outreach Sessions afforded us an opportunity to present India's perspectives on a wide range of issues in a forthright manner.

As an exclusive session as expanded G8–Outreach Session (called Leaders Meeting of Major Economies, bringing together G8, India, China, Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, Indonesia, South Korea, the European Commission and the UN) devoted to Climate Change, Prime Minister stated that given the critical importance of sustained and accelerated economic growth for all developing countries, for the present, developing countries cannot consider quantitative restrictions on their emissions. He underscored that there must be new and additional resources made available to developing countries to help them in their efforts to tackle the challenges of climate change.

In a Declaration issued on the subject following the above meeting the Leaders agreed *"to continue to improve our policies and our performance while meeting other priority objectives in keeping with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities"*. In this context, they also recognized that *"there is an urgent need to scale up financial flows, particularly financial support to developing countries"*. Leaders affirmed the *"critical role of technology and the need for technological breakthroughs in meeting the interlinked global challenges of energy security and climate change"*. To achieve the objective of full, effective, and sustained implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change by 2012, the Leaders agreed to *"improve significantly energy efficiency, a low-cost way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance energy security"*.

(c) The Chari's Summary of the 2008 G8 Summit *inter-alia* included a para on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India expressing the willingness of G8 countries to work with India in this field.

Stealing of visa stickers

1156. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that visa stickers were stolen from Indian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur and they were used by Malaysians to enter India;